



– For Immediate Release –

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

IIMPACT detectives arrest two suspected “human smugglers” *Arrests follow lengthy investigation*

On September 12, 2008, IIMPACT Detectives spoke to a woman Northern California. She reported that her brother had been kidnapped by human smugglers in the Phoenix-area who were demanding a ransom of \$1,300. The suspects told the woman if she did not pay the ransom her brother would be killed. The woman spoke to her brother and he pleaded for her to pay and ensure his safety.

Through information developed by various leads, IIMPACT detectives went to the Motel 6 at 8152 N. Black Canyon Highway in Phoenix. The suspects were located but the victim, was not present. Detectives went to an apartment at 4001 W. Camelback. A search warrant was served. Investigators believe the victim had been held at that location. He remains missing.

Both suspects were booked for kidnapping and extortion.

Arrested: Jose Rubio Miranda
Maximlano Velasques

Charges: Kidnapping, Extortion

IIMPACT (Illegal Immigration Prevention & Apprehension Co-op Team) is a multi-agency project managed by GIITEM of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) that is designed to address rising crime associated with illegal immigration. IIMPACT is comprised of personnel from DPS, Phoenix Police, ICE and the Arizona Fraudulent Identification Task Force (AFIT). As the name implies, local, state and federal police agencies combine forces to impact international human smuggling organizations operating in Arizona.

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